

Remarks

Applicants thank the Examiner for the withdrawal of the finality of the previous Office action. Claims 1-9 and 31 are pending after entry of the foregoing amendments. Claims 10-30 were previously cancelled without prejudice to presentation in a divisional application because they are drawn to non-elected subject matter. Claim 1 has been amended. Support for the amendments to claim 1 are found at least in original claim 1. Claims 2-9 are currently withdrawn. Claim 31 is allowed.

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Fukuda et al. (WO 98/12197). Applicants respectfully submit that the amendments to claim 1 obviate this rejection and request that it be withdrawn.

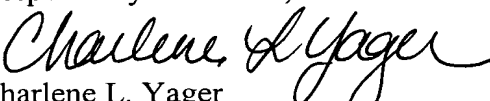
In light of the amendments to claim 1, Applicants respectfully request that claims 2-9 be rejoined. If claims 2-9 are rejoined, Applicants authorize an amendment to claim 9 to delete the reference to the pyrrole ring.

Applicants respectfully submit that Fukuda et al. does not teach or suggest the invention of claim 1, as amended, nor that of claims 2-9, once claim 9 is amended to delete the reference to the pyrrole ring.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that the claims are in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner have any unanswered questions, please contact the undersigned at the phone number below.

Applicants believe that no fee is due in connection with this response. In the event Applicants are mistaken, please charge any fee to Deposit Account No. 50-0842

Respectfully submitted,


Charlene L. Yager
Reg. No. 48,887

Docket No.: 065435-9014
Michael Best & Friedrich LLP
One South Pinckney Street
P. O. Box 1806
Madison, WI 53701-1806
(608) 257-3501